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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB210

Making in-person voting on the date of an election the standard method for conducting an election is a terrible idea. Oregon voters have significantly increased their election participation due to the flexibility and convenience of mailing or dropping off ballots at approved locations. Not everyone has the type of job that allows for time off to vote on a specific date. Caregivers also are less likely to be able to cast a ballot on a specific date. Some voters have physical or transportation limitations that raise barriers to in-person voting. By allowing eligible voters to cast their ballots by mail, the state of Oregon cuts down on people missing the opportunity to vote due to physical limitations, accident, illness, transportation difficulties, and work or caregiving commitments. Voting is one of the most important responsibilities of citizens in our democracy. We should support and continue the vote-by-mail options that allow Oregon voters to significantly increase their election participation.